



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/892,736	06/28/2001	Steven G. Smith	BS00-106	3586
45695 7590 06/05/2007 WITHERS & KEYS FOR BELL SOUTH P. O. BOX 71355 MARIETTA, GA 30007-1355			EXAMINER CHANKONG, DOHM	
			ART UNIT 2152	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/05/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/892,736	Applicant(s) SMITH ET AL.	
	Examiner Dohm Chankong	Art Unit 2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 March 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-23 and 26-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-23 and 26-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1> This action is in response to Applicant's arguments filed 3.2.2007. Claims 1, 10, 11, 15, 23, 26 and 28 are amended. Claims 4, 24, 25 and 29-31 are cancelled. Claims 1-3, 5-23 and 26-28 are presented for further examination.

2> This is a non-final rejection.

Response to Arguments

3> Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3, 5-22 have been considered and are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

4> With respect to claims 1, 6, 10, 11 and 13, it is first noted that Applicant refers to the limitation of "directing communications...from the at least one network address to a separate network address corresponding to the intranet" as including the limitation "while initially and persistently logged into the system interface" [Applicant's remarks, pg. 11, ¶¶2, 3, pg. 12, ¶¶1, 3]. This additional limitation is absent from independent claims 1, 11, 23 and 28 or their dependent claims. It is only present in independent claim 15.

It is further noted that claims 1, 11 and 15 differ from claims 23 and 28 in that the system interface merely directs communications from the client to a separate address without maintaining concurrent connections to both the legacy system and intranet.

Additionally, Applicant's argue that Willis does not teach accessing an intranet and that its reference within the specification is merely a hoped-for enhancement. This interpretation is inconsistent with Willis' disclosure and claims that the systems' interface may be constructed such that "access may be provided to other legacy systems and to non-legacy systems" [column 6 «lines 1-5» | claim 7]. Coupled with the fact that the Willis expressly discloses that a technician can use the system to "access an intranet," one of ordinary skill in the art could have reasonably inferred that Willis' system interface was connected to both legacy and non-legacy systems, which would include an intranet [see also claims 3 and 7]. Willis' systems interface can be enabled simply by connecting it both to a legacy and a non-legacy system.

Finally, Applicant argues that Willis does not teach directing communications from one network address to a separate network address. The Office agrees that this is not expressly stated within Willis' specification so a new reference is introduced in this action to cure this deficiency. However, as stated in the preceding paragraph, it should be noted that Willis does disclose that the system interface can be coupled to both legacy and non-legacy systems such that a technician can access information from both systems. Despite not being expressly stated, it is reasonable to infer that each of these systems would have separate network addresses.

With respect to claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 14, 15-17 and 19, Applicant's arguments have been considered but are not persuasive for claims 2, 3, 6, 7 and 14. Applicant argues that Stone merely teaches that the application sending commands to launch the

Art Unit: 2152

browser is resident on the same computer. However, it is note that claim 2 does not recite that the command is received "over a network" as emphasized by Applicant.

Applicant has amended claim 15 to recite this feature. Therefore, a new ground of rejection is introduced to address this new limitation.

5> It should be noted that claims 23 and 26-28 are only rejected on double patenting grounds.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

6> Claims 1-3, 5-23 and 26-28 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-19 of U.S.

Art Unit: 2152

Patent No. 7,219,137 ['137 patent]. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the claims of the instant application broader in scope than those of the '137 patent.

For example, claims I and II of the instant application recite a systems interface comprising a protocol server that is connected to a legacy system and a transaction server connected to an intranet. Claim I of the '137 patent recites all of these features except describes a first server connected to an intranet and a second server connected to a legacy system. Claim of the '137 patent also contains subject matter claimed in claims 2, 6, and 7 of the instant application. Claim 15 of the instant application recites the same functionality as claims I and II but also adds the limitations of claim 2.

Claims 23 and 28 of the instant application recite the same functionality as claims I, II, and 15 but also add limitations with respect to authenticating and providing a GUI to receive user requests to access the intranet. These features are recites in claims 1, 8 and 9. Claim 5 of the instant application is nearly identical to claim 4 of the '137 patent.

Based on the foregoing, claims 1-3, 5-23 and 26-28 of the instant application are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting. A provisional double patenting rejection was set forth in the non-final Office action, filed 9.30.2004 when the '137 patent had not yet been granted. Applicant's response, filed 1.3.2005 stated that a terminal disclaimer was to be filed but no terminal disclaimer has been received with respect to the instant application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7> Claims 1, 11 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. These claims are rejected for reciting that "the system interface is adapted to direct communications from the computer from the at least one network address to a separate network address corresponding to the intranet that is distinct from the legacy system *by the protocol server...*" Based on the construction of the sentence, it is unclear as to the role that the protocol server plays in the process of directing communications. The claims should be written to more clearly define what claim element is responsible for the directing of communications from one network address to another (such as with claims 23 and 28).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8> Claims 1, 6, 10, 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Willis, Jr. et al, U.S Patent No. 6,738,815 ["Willis"], in view of

Trace et al, U.S Patent Publication No. 2003|0046397 [“Trace”], in further view of Fortier, JR. et al, U.S Patent Publication No. 2003|0023601 [“Fortier”].

9> As to claim 1, Willis discloses a system for permitting a user to access data on a legacy system and an intranet [abstract], comprising:

a systems interface coupled to the legacy system, wherein the systems interface comprises at least one network address that can be accessed by a computer over a communication network, and further comprises a protocol server for managing protocol regarding the computer interfacing with a transaction server in direct communication with the legacy system [Figure 3 «items 24, 26, 28, 30» | column 3 «lines 25-33» | column 5 «lines 30-36» where : Willis' TechNet server is analogous to a transaction server],

Willis does disclose systems interface that is connected to both a legacy system and an intranet (non-legacy system) [column 6 «lines 1-5» | column 14 «lines 5-19» | claim 7]. Willis however but does not expressly disclose that the systems interface is adapted to direct communications from the computer from the at least one network address to a separate network address corresponding to the intranet that is distinct from the legacy system.

Willis does not expressly disclose that the protocol server bypasses the transaction server by directing communications from the computer directly to the intranet.

Art Unit: 2152

10> Trace discloses a systems interface that provides concurrent connections to two different networks [abstract | 0002 where : Trace's gateway is analogous to a systems interface and the first connection is an Internet connection providing access to an internet server and the second connection provides access to a corporate intranet]. Trace discloses that the systems interface directs communications from the computer from a first network address to a separate network address corresponding to an intranet that is distinct from the first network [0050]. Thus, communications are directed from the system interface address to a separate address (the corporate intranet).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Trace's concurrent connection functionality into Willis. Willis would be improved by being able to maintain connections to both legacy and non-legacy systems [see Trace, 0004, 0007].

11> Willis also discloses that requests to the intranet are received at a transaction request broker bypassing the transaction server [claim 7]. Similarly, Fortier is directed towards a system providing communications among disparate communication networks including a legacy system and a corporate intranet [Figure 1]. The workstation is connected to both the legacy system, through a first server (the M&C server - Fortier classifies the legacy system as part of the measurement & control system) and the corporate intranet through a TP server (TP server provides access to the TCP/IP network) [0015, 0036].

This functionality is achieved primarily through the user of a system interface, or what Fortier refers to as a Scanning and Control software module [0050]. This module acts as a conduit to the intranet and the legacy system [0051 : the module presents a “single concurrent server” to the world while providing access to databases, remote TCP/IP clients, HTTP servers and M&C network devices].

Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Fortier and Willis to provide a systems interface to access both an intranet and legacy system. Fortier supplements Willis's system interface by providing functionality to bypass the transaction server (Fortier's M&C server) to directly connect to the intranet (through Fortier's TP server). Fortier improves upon Willis by providing a single computer to access multiple computing devices with different networking protocols [Fortier, 0007].

12> As to claim 6, Willis discloses the system of claim 1, the transaction server sends a command to the protocol server to direct the computer to the separate network address in order to direct communications from the computer to the intranet [see Willis, Figures <1, 3> | column 3 <28-33> | column 5 <lines 24-63> | column 11 <line 59> to column 12 <line 4> where: the TechNet server is equivalent in functionality to the second server, and the protocol server is equivalent to the first server].

13> As to claim 10, Willis discloses the computer running application specific client software to access the data from the legacy system, wherein the application specific client software is presenting a GUI page to the user, and wherein the GUI

Art Unit: 2152

page includes an icon or software button that can be selected or engaged by the user to initiate the directing [column 6 «lines 51-57» | column 14 «lines 5-19»].

14> As to claim 11, as it does not teach or further define over the limitations of previous claims 1 and 6, it is similarly rejected for the reasons set forth above.

15> As to claim 13, Willis discloses the system of claim 11, wherein the at least one transaction server receives requests and generates legacy system transactions [column 3 «lines 25-33» | column 5 «lines 30-36»].

16> Claims 2, 3, 7 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Willis, Fortier and Trace, in view of Stone et al, U.S Patent No. 6,101,510 [“Stone”].

17> As to claim 2, Willis discloses the system of claim 1, wherein the systems interface sends a command for the computer in order to direct communications from the computer to the intranet [column 6 «line 67» to column 7 «line 6»] but does not explicitly disclose that the command launches a browser.

18> Stone discloses a systems interface sending a command to launch a browser to direct communications from the computer to an intranet [column 1 «lines 8-11» | column 2 «lines 35-39» | column 3 «lines 1-9» | column 12 «lines 60-65» where: the server applications is comparable to a systems interface, and sends a command to the user

Art Unit: 2152

computer to launch a browser] to allow applications to automatically direct the browser to an internet or intranet site without any interaction from the user.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement Stone's web browser control functionality into Willis' systems interface to automatically direct client computers to the proper internet or intranet site without any user interaction.

19> As to claim 3, Willis' discloses the system of claim 2, wherein commands comprise an application program interface command [column 6 <line 67> to column 7 <line 6>] but does not explicitly disclose that the command is for launching a browser.

20> Stone discloses an application program interface command for launching a browser [column 3 <lines 1-12>]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement one of Willis' application program interfaces as Stone's browser launching API command to automatically open and direct the browser to the appropriate intranet site.

21> As to claim 7, Willis' discloses the system of claim 4, wherein the systems interface sends at least one command for the protocol server to direct the computer to the separate network address in order to direct communications from the computer to the intranet [Figures <1, 3> | column 3 <28-33> | column 5 <lines 24-63> | column 11 <line 59> to column 12 <line 4> where: the TechNet server is equivalent in functionality to

Art Unit: 2152

the second server, and the protocol server is equivalent to the first server], but does not specifically disclose a command for the computer to launch a browser.

22> Stone discloses a systems interface sending a command to launch a browser to direct communications from the computer to an a separate network address [column 1 <lines 8-11> | column 2 <lines 35-39> | column 3 <lines 1-9 and lines 34-37>] to allow applications to automatically direct the browser to an internet or intranet site without any interaction from the user. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement Stone's web browser control functionality into Willis' systems interface to automatically direct client computers to the proper internet or intranet site without any user interaction.

23> As to claim 14, Willis' discloses the system of claim 13, wherein the means for providing an interface issues at least one command that causes the computer to launch a browser and that causes the at least one protocol server to direct the computer from the first network address to the second network address [Figures <1, 3> | column 3 <28-33> | column 5 <lines 24-63> | column 11 <line 59> to column 12 <line 4>], but does not specifically disclose a command for the computer to launch a browser.

24> Stone discloses a systems interface sending a command to launch a browser that causes a server to direct a computer [column 1 <lines 8-11> | column 2 <lines 35-39> | column 3 <lines 1-9 and lines 34-37>] to allow applications to automatically direct the browser to an internet or intranet site without any interaction from the user.

Art Unit: 2152

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement Stone's web browser control functionality into Willis' systems interface to automatically direct client computers to the proper internet or intranet site without any user interaction.

25> Claims 15-17 and 19 are rejected under Willis and Trace, in further view of Kelley, U.S Patent No. 6,724,406.

26> As to claim 15, Willis discloses a method for accessing data, comprising:
logging a computer onto a systems interface that permits remote access of legacy systems and that comprises a protocol server for managing protocol with the computer and a transaction server in direct communication with the legacy system and the protocol server [Figure 3 «items 24, 26, 28, 30» | column 3 «lines 25-33» | column 5 «lines 30-36» where : Willis' TechNet server is analogous to a transaction server];

accessing the systems interface at a first network address initially and persistently [column 8 «lines 51-67» | column 9 «lines 46-55» where : Willis discloses a technician is logged on for a session];

providing a user input at the computer for accessing an intranet that is distinct from the legacy systems [column 5 «lines 64-67» | column 6 «lines 51-63»];

while remaining initially and persistently logged on, accessing an intranet separately from the legacy systems at a separate network address [column 6 «lines 1-5» | column 8 «lines 51-67» | column 11 «line 60» to column 12 «line 4» | column 14 «line 19» where: accessing both legacy and non-legacy systems, including an intranet].

Willis discloses that requests to the intranet are received at a transaction request broker bypassing the transaction server [claim 7]. See also the rejection of claim 1.

Willis does not explicitly disclose launching a browser in response to a command from the systems interface or that the bypassing occurs upon detecting the launch of the browser at the computer.

27> Kelley teaches a systems interface sending a command to launch a browser where the command is received over a network [column 6 «lines 1-14» where : the website launches a separate browsing session on the client computer] to allow applications to automatically direct the browser to an internet or intranet site without any interaction from the user [column 6 «lines 50-60»]. The combination of Willis, Trace and Kelley would provide communications to the intranet bypassing the transaction server upon detecting the launch of the browser at the computer. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement Kelley's web browser control functionality into Willis' systems interface to automatically direct client computers to the proper internet or intranet site without any user interaction.

28> As to claim 16, Willis discloses the method of claim 15, wherein the transaction server is adapted to receive requests and generate legacy transactions, and wherein the transaction server has a second network address [Figures <3,5,6> | column 3 <lines 25-33> | column 9 <lines 46-65> | column 11 <lines 60-67>].

29> As to claim 17, Willis discloses the method of claim 16, wherein the computer is logged onto the protocol server [Figure 6 | column 8 <lines 64-66>].

30> As to claim 19, Willis discloses the method of claim 16, wherein the command comprises an application program interface command issued by the protocol server or the transaction server [column 6 <line 64> to column 7 <line 14> | column 7 <lines 53-64>].

31> Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Willis and Trace, in view of Butts et al, U.S Patent No. 6,233,541 ["Butts"].

32> As to claim 5, Willis discloses the system of claim 4, wherein the at least one network address comprises a first IP address corresponding to the protocol server and a second IP address corresponding to the transaction server [Figure 20 | column 9 <lines 51-53> | column 10 <lines 5-7> | column 11 <line 60> to column 12 <line 10> | column 12 <lines 46-67> where: although, Willis does not specifically state that the second server has an IP address, a server having an IP address is well known in the art, and he does state that the second server has a separate address from the first server].

Willis discloses a legacy system and intranet with a separate address but does not explicitly disclose that separate network address comprises a third IP address.

Art Unit: 2152

33> Butts teaches that a legacy system with an IP address [abstract | Figure 1 where: the legacy system is accessed using TCP/IP communications]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have implemented Willis' separate address as an IP address to allow Willis' clients access to the legacy system and intranet across a persistent TCP/IP connection, thereby permitting real-time bi-directional communication with the system.

34> Claims 8, 9 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Willis and Trace, in view of Devine et al, U.S Patent No. 6,598,167 ["Devine"].

35> As to claim 8, Willis discloses the system of claim 1, wherein the computer is running application-specific client software to enable the computer to access the information from the legacy system [column 6 <lines 51-63>], but does not explicitly disclose that enabling the computer access to the legacy information comprising causing a browser to be launched at the computer to direct communications from the computer to the intranet, and wherein the browser is displayed at the computer as an active window with the application-specific client software being minimized or hidden behind the active window.

36> Devine discloses a system running application-specific client software comprising a causing a browser to be launched at the computer to direct communications from the computer to the intranet [column 12 <lines 28-31> | column 13 <lines 62-67>], and wherein the browser is displayed at the computer as an active

Art Unit: 2152

window with the application-specific client software being minimized or hidden behind the active window [Figure 2 <items 12, 14> | column 7 <lines 1-20> where: the backplane is comparable to the application-specific client software]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate all of Devine's browser and application-specific software functionality into Willis' system and software to allow the client to utilize their own browser to connect to an intranet, thereby limiting the need for training and support as the client already is familiar with his browser [Devine - column 2 <lines 11-26>].

37> As to claim 9, Willis discloses the system of claim 8, wherein the computer is logged onto the systems interface using the application-specific client software, and wherein, following the directing, the computer remains logged onto the systems interface and the application-specific client software remains an active application [column 6 <lines 51-63> | column 7 <lines 6-13> where: the GUI layer is comparable to application-specific client software].

38> As to claim 12, Willis does disclose user input [column 6 <lines 51-63>] but does not explicitly state that said input comprises engagement of a software key by the user.

39> Devine discloses user input as engagement of a software key by the user [column 7 <lines 64-67>]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to infer that Willis' GUI layer would have had icons or keys available for engagement

Art Unit: 2152

to the user to allow the user to access the various functionality of the GUI, as taught by Devine.

40> Claims 18 and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Willis, Trace and Kelley, in further view of Devine.

41> As to claim 18, Willis does disclose a method of claim 16, a user input [column 6 <lines 51-63>] but does not explicitly state that said input comprises engagement of a software key by the user.

42> Devine discloses user input as engagement of a software key by the user [column 7 <lines 64-67>]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to infer that Willis' GUI layer would have had icons or keys available for engagement to the user to allow the user to access the various functionality of the GUI, as taught by Devine.

43> As to claim 20, Willis discloses displaying a technician interface [column 3 <lines 64-65> | column 6 <lines 52-63>] but does not specifically state displaying a technician home page corresponding to the separate network address.

44> Devine teaches displaying a technician home page corresponding to the separate network address [Figure 3 | column 7 <lines 21-34> | column 8 <lines 17-30>]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Devine's

Art Unit: 2152

home page functionality into Willis' technician interface to obtain the advantage of establishing secure TCP messaging sessions by utilizing a browser to access data.

45> As to claim 21, Willis discloses the method of claim 20, further comprising the step of retrieving local information from the intranet, the local information comprising one or more of: cross-box locations, pricing information, service information cable records, and plat records [column 1 <lines 32-53> | column 3 <lines 34-41>].

46> As to claim 22, Willis discloses the method of claim 21, further comprising the step of returning to the systems interface [Figure 1 | column 5 <lines 24-36>].

Conclusion

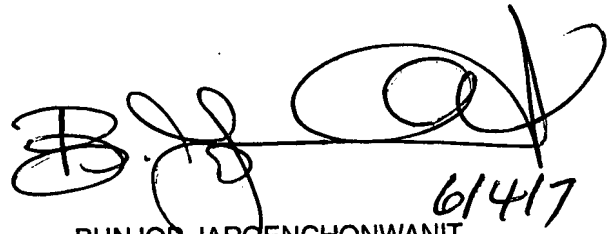
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dohm Chankong whose telephone number is 571.272.3942. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday [8:30 AM to 4:30 PM].

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571.272.3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2152

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DC



6/4/17
BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER